

HA-200

John Stump House  
Harford County  
Stafford vicinity

ADDENDUM: According to Mary Bristow, Historical Society of Harford County, the datestone reading "John Stump III 1779" was found in a nearby field and placed in the exterior wall during a period of restoration, date unknown. The date may therefore not be correct.

Janet Davis  
April 18, 1983

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

John Stump House

AND/OR COMMON

Stafford Farm

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Stafford Road

CITY, TOWN

Darlington, Md.

VICINITY OF Stafford

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY Harford

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☒ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH  
**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**  
☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
☒ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE  
☐ COMMERCIAL  
☐ EDUCATIONAL  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT  
☐ GOVERNMENT  
☐ INDUSTRIAL  
☐ MILITARY  
☐ MUSEUM  
☒ PARK  
☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Col. Buckner M. Creel

Telephone #: 457-4251

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Stafford Road

CITY, TOWN

Darlington

VICINITY OF Stafford

STATE, zip code

Md. 21034

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Harford County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

40 S. Main Street  
Bel Air

STATE Maryland

Liber #: GRG 315  
Folio #: 347**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RUINS other site on	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED property		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This house is located on a rise overlooking the Deer Creek, giving it an eastern facing. The older portion of the house is of coursed rubble stone and stands two and one-half stories tall. The stone was reputed to have been brought over from Port Deposit. The addition on the southern end is a lower two-story structure, with a stone first floor wall on the west side. The high stone cellar on the east side of the frame section is totally exposed. The stone wall corners are quoined. The stone house bays are three by one, with 1 X 1 windows. The doorways are located in the following places: two are opposite each other on the eastern and western sides, connected by a thru hall, while a third entrance is situated on the north wall. The western opening has a three-light transom over it, while the northern door has double French doors and a Venetian arch transom, probably added in the 1800's. All of the windows have patterned upper sashes with stained glass. There are two attic windows, 2 X 2, on both ends of the stone structure. The roof is a gable flank of tin, with the original brick chimneys being flush-end and located on the north and south walls. A large four-window dormer is situated on the center of the roof and covers both sides. It's windows are 6 X 6, and a rail fence observation porch rests on top of it. A triangular pediment projects from the wall overtop the western entrance, while there is a very high three-bay, shed-roofed porch over the eastern door. Roof trim included a box cornice with a dentiled frieze. Some of the more unique features of the first floor interior were the stained-glass windows, said to have once resided in the original courthouse, as well as the scalloped staircase and the Wall of Troy trim on the wall. On the outside corner of the north wall is the inscription, "Stafford Built 1779 JS III".

The addition on the southern end is of bevelled frame and has a bay of one by two, with 6 X 6 windows. There is a two-story porch of four bays that wraps itself around the southeastern corner and has a shed roof. A door is located on the southern end of this addition on the first floor. Most of the doors still retain the box locks, although the windows throughout the building have been replaced. The addition also has a tin, flank-gable roof. On the southwest corner is the cellar, quite possibly the old house slaves' quarters

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

This house, erected in 1779, was built by John Stump III who was one of the wealthiest men in Maryland at that time. The original John Stump died in 1747. His first son, also named John, married Hannah Husband and his second son, Henry, married Rachel Perkins. John Stump II died in 1797, leaving a daughter, Hannah, who married her cousin, also named John. John Stump II's other children were Herman, who married Elizabeth Durbin and John Stump III, who married Cassandra Wilson.

The 1798 tax list indicated that John Stump III owned as many as 1553 acres in the Stafford-Rock Run area alone. Along with being such a prominent landowner, Stump was very enterprising and diverse businessman, having built the Rock Run Mill in 1794 and in that same year also acquiring a warehouse and wharf at Lapidum, then known as Bell's Ferry. Stump also established the beginnings of the lumber mills and the pig iron furnaces at Stafford, later carried on by his descendants. A second large flour mill, the Stafford Mill, was also operated by Stump not far from the house.

Despite his financial success, Stump's life was rather checkered in other quarters. During the War of 1812, he allegedly sold flour to the British forces in the area, although a small contingent of British troops did destroy some of Stump's property at Bell's Ferry. He was notorious for the ill treatment towards his tenants, especially in the case of the Widow Carter. John Carter and Stump had been partners in the Rock Run Mill venture, with Carter being allowed to construct the house that is now known as the Archer house. Stump's partner died in 1804, and Carter's widow was forcibly evicted from the house and banished to Lancaster on an oxcart.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Harford County Land Records  
 Interview with Col. Buckner and Mrs. Creel, 6/76  
 Martenet's map of Harford County  
 Mason, Samuel J., Historical Sketches of Harford County, 1955 Intelligencer Press  
 Wright, C. Milton, Our Harford Heritage, 1967, French-Bray Lancaster, Pa.  
 CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY Baltimore

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1.49**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

The property is located on the southern side of Stafford Road right at the bridge crossing. It fronts Deer Creek on the south and southeast side of the tract.

**LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES**

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Paul Penrod site surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Shaw House, 21 State Circle

CITY OR TOWN

Annapolis

DATE

May 11, 1976

TELEPHONE

267-1212

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
 (301) 267-1438

TITLE SEARCH

<u>Libre</u>		<u>Folio</u>	
GRG	295	159	In 1946, L. Goldie M. Smith conveyed the 130 acre tract called Stafford Farms to Col. Buckner M. Creel.
WSF	88	98	Stafford Farms was obtained in 1896 by C. Coleman Smith from Herman Smithson and others. Here the property measured 151 acres.
Will WSR	9	299	Herman Stump conveyed the property to Catherine Smithson by his last will and testament in 1878.
HD	Z	399	John and Ann Archer, Priscilla Stump, Hannah Stump, John W. Stump and James and Mary Williams all sold to Herman Stump, Sr., in 1817, their shares of land inherited from John Stump of Stafford, who died in 1816. This large parcel was located at the mouth of Deer Creek, encompassing parts of the Land of Promise, Lynes Tents, Lynes Addition, Rigbie's Hope and Stump's Hope, measuring 487 acres, three roods and 20 perches.
JLG	E	26	In 1782, Thomas Harrison sold to John Stump two large tracts of land near the mouth of Deer Creek; Lines Tents, patented at 1000 acres and Lines Addition, patented at 600 acres.

INVENTORY NO. HA-200

ELECTION DISTRICT \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: 5/5/76

TAX MAP NO. \_\_\_\_\_

REMODELING: Drastic, moderate, minor

PARCEL NO. \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF PROPERTY: JOHN STUMP HOUSE

LOCATION OF PROPERTY: STAFFORD ROAD JUST RIGHT OF THE BRIDGE, OVERLOOKING DEER CREEK

DIRECTION DWELLING FACES: SOUTH

NAME OF OWNER: MR. + MRS. BUCKNER CREEEL

ADDRESS: DARLINGTON, M.D.

STORIES: 1[ ] 2[☒] 3[ ] 4[ ] 5[ ] 6[ ] BAYS: 1[ ] 2[ ] 3[ ] 4[ ] 5[ ]

WINGS, ADDITIONS: WOOD 2 STORY ADDITION WITH STAIR 3x1 6[ ] 7[ ] [ ]

LOWER PORTION ON WEST SIDE

ADDED LATER

WALL CONSTRUCTION:

1x2 with 6x6 windows

- [ ] FRAME: Bevel, clapboard, weatherboard, wood shingles, board & batten(type?)  
[ ] BRICK: Bond type- common, English, Flemish. Sketch variants.  
[☒] STONE: Bond type- rubble, ashlar (random or regular), quoins-plain, rusticated  
[ ] LOG COURSED

WALL FEATURES: BELT COURSE, PILASTERS, OTHERS

FOUNDATIONS: HIGH, LOW, BRICK, STONE

WATER TABLE: NONE, PLAIN, BEVELED, MOULDED BRICK

WINDOWS, TRIM, SHUTTERS: 1/1[☒] 2/2[ ] 6/6[ ] 9/6[ ] 9/9[ ] other[ ]

pegged[ ] nailed[☒] wide[ ] narrow[ ]

original[ ] replaced[☒]

Disruption on old wall, left corner  
"STAFFORD" BUILT 1777 JS III

UPPER PARTIAL HAVE STAINED GLASS on all windows

Cells windows on S. and E. side  
down on W. side below the porch

ENTRANCE, DOORS: LOCATION:

HARDWARE: original[ ] replaced[☒]

FAN LIGHT, TRANSOM, SIDE LIGHTS, PLAIN

1 on S. side / 3 LT. transoms

CORNICE, BARGE, EAVES:

original[ ] replaced[☒]

1 on N. side in addition

ROOF: GABLE FRONT, GABLE FLANK, HIP, MANSARD, FLAT, DORMERS

MATERIAL: wood shingles, slate, tin, asphalt

original[ ] replaced[☒]

PORCHES: SHAPE OF ROOF - shed[ ] hip[ ] gable[ ]

CHIMNEYS: NUMBER 2 BRICK[☒] STONE[ ] CORBELED[ ] original[☒] replaced[ ]

LOCATION: front, ends E. and W. end

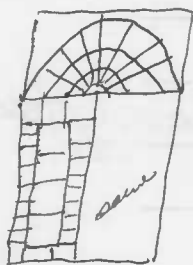
ARCHES:

COMMENTS: tenared into hillside

Stone came from Ft. Deposit  
horse slabs kept in cellar under addition

west  
venetian window on east side

probably added later at what looked like a door



2<sup>nd</sup> attic windows as ~~good~~ <sup>with</sup> ~~add~~ <sup>end</sup>  
2/2 lots \*



back door and venetian window glass taken from Hare de Grace  
scalloped staircase - fireplace is original on west wall hallway  
Dory turn in hallway

Interview with Mr. + Mrs. Cuel 5/76





Stafford HA-~~199~~200

Stafford Rd.

Darlington, MD

Paul Penrod

7/76

West side